

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, lines 10-19, to read as follows:

b1 To widen the light distribution in the horizontal direction, although it is effective to make an effective refractive index difference parallel to the layers between inside and outside the stripes (Δn) small, with the construction of the past, that is, one of a construction satisfying either or both of the conditions of four or fewer wells of the MQW active layer or a layer thickness in the flat part of the p-AlGaInP cladding layer of less than 300nm, it is not possible to achieve a sufficiently small value of Δn , thereby preventing enhanced self-sustained pulsating operation.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows:

- b2
- sub c1 > 1. (Twice Amended) A self-sustained pulsating laser diode having a double-heterostructure comprising:
- a first cladding layer of a first conductivity type;
 - a multi-quantum well active layer; and
 - a second cladding layer of a second conductivity type and both the first cladding layer and the second cladding layer being arranged on a semiconductor substrate of the first conductivity type, the number of said quantum wells being at least 5 and no greater than 10; and a layer thickness of a flat part of said second cladding layer having a current blocking structure being at least 300nm and no greater than 500nm; and a carrier density in said flat part of said second cladding layer having a current blocking structure being at least $1 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ and no greater than $5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.